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Electricity, Medical, Water Projects Enrich Diyala Province

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TIKRIT, Iraq - In the Diyala Province, the Iraq Reconstruction Program includes over 170 infrastructure projects. To date, 133 are finished with 28 currently active and 13 planned to start. Many of these projects are in remote locations and not readily visible to Iraqi citizens. Some of these projects are high-capacity electrical distribution projects and large treatment facilities for water and sewage.

The following is a snapshot of projects, by sector, in the Diyala Province, with supplementary information on several focus projects.

Building, health and education projects – There are 45 of the 52 approved building, health and education projects completed in Diyala. One project still in developmental stages is the Baqubah General Hospital. This construction addition will update the current facility with a new surgical building that provides an additional 75 beds, a surgical and trauma operating suite, and an intensive care unit. The \$7 million upgrade will increase medical care and capabilities for roughly 320,000 people in the Baqubah area.

This summer, Diyala citizens will start to reap the benefits of seven new primary healthcare centers that are currently active. One clinic is scheduled to finish this month; two in May, one in June, one in July and two in August. Medical equipment for the April and May completed clinics is on its way now so that all three clinics are



All of the new primary healthcare centers in the Diyala Province house six doctors' offices with adjoining examination rooms; an x-ray room; two dental exam rooms; a pharmacy and laboratory; two treatment rooms; and a classroom. Some of the PHCs will have an additional classroom and digital x-ray machine. (USACE photo)

ready to receive and treat more than 100 patients a day.

Electrical - Of the 36 electrical projects budgeted for the Diyala Province, 25 are complete and two are still in developmental stages. One of the nine electrical projects currently in progress will improve the capacity of the electrical distribution system for the city of Buhriz providing more reliable power for about 7,000 residents. This \$3.5 million project is scheduled to be completed in October.

Security and Justice - There are 52 budgeted projects in this sector. Forty-eight of those projects are complete; one

is still in developmental stages and one is through the contractual stage and has a planned start date. Of the two current ongoing sites, one is a \$42 million prison upgrade project that will add buildings to the existing facility, and increase inmate capacity to 1,600 beds. This project is ongoing, and upon completion, will be an employment plus for the region.

Public works and water - Of the 25 water and/or sewage treatment projects financed, seven are still in developmental stages, and 10 are completed. One of the eight currently active water projects will ultimately provide 6.3 million gallons of clean drinking water daily to 72,000 Iraqi families in Balad Rooz. This project is scheduled to finish in October. Another ongoing water project, one worth \$5.5

million, is due to finish in December will ensure adequate water flow is available for land irrigation, as well as flood control.

Transportation and communication

- There are eight such projects budgeted across the Diyala Province; two are completed; one has a planned start, and two are currently active. Both active projects increase economic activity and emergency response through improved transportation routes and easier access benefiting an untold number of citizens of Diyala.

This is only a synopsis of progress in the Diyala Province. Nationwide, and since the time of sovereignty in 2004, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has completed over 3,000 of the original 3,786 projects in the Iraq Reconstruction Program.

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